

Don Purdum, 89

PCCR 7-3-2013

Don Purdum, 89, of Grinnell and formerly of Malcom, passed away peacefully on July 1, 2013 at Grinnell Regional Medical Center. Funeral services will begin at 10:30 am Wednesday, July 3, 2013 at the Holland-Coble Funeral Home in Montezuma with Chaplain Keith Morrison officiating. Burial will be held in the Jackson Township Cemetery in Montezuma. Visitation will begin after 12:00 pm Tuesday, July 2, 2013 at the funeral home with the family present from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Memorial contributions may be made to the Grinnell Regional Hospice. Holland-Coble Funeral Home of Montezuma is in charge of arrangements.



Don Eugene Purdum was born on Valentine's Day, February 14, 1925 to Ben and Pearl Farnsworth Purdum in the parental home, Montezuma, Iowa. Don graduated from Montezuma community school in 1943. He was an active athlete, lettering in football, basketball, and track. He entered the US Army Air Corps on Armistice Day, November 11, 1943. He was trained as an aircraft mechanic and served stateside on a B29 bomber crew during WWII. Don returned to civilian life on February 13, 1946, one day before his birthday.

Don married Germaine Schinckel on June 14 (Flag Day), 1947 at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Brooklyn. The couple lived briefly in Des Moines where Don was employed as an aircraft mechanic at Beaver Field. They returned to the Montezuma area in 1949 where with the aid of GI Night School the two began the life of farming they would share until Don's retirement. He enjoyed a lifetime of working with his hands in such endeavors as farm equipment maintenance, carpentry, woodworking, and music. He was a self-taught harmonica and concertina player who entertained family and friends, and the occasional passer-by as he made music in the car while waiting on Germaine as she shopped. Don was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather who will remain in the memories of all who he leaves behind.

He was preceded in death by his parents Ben and Pearl, brothers Bruce, Mack, Carroll, Dwight, Cletus, and sister Edna Rowell.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Germaine, son Neal (Cedar Rapids), daughter Jean and son-in-law Leo Hanson of Fremont Neb., grandson Eric Hanson, his girlfriend Jordan Young, and their newborn daughter Paige of Scribner, Neb., and his granddaughter, Celina, her husband Chuck Kucera, and their daughter Carlee also of Fremont, Neb.

Don Purdum 6H-R
7-8-2013



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He was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers Bruce, Mack, Carroll, Dwight, and Cletus; and one sister Edna Rowell.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Germaine; son Neal of Cedar Rapids; daughter Jean Hanson of Fremont Neb.; two grandchildren; and two great grandchildren.

DON PURDUM

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